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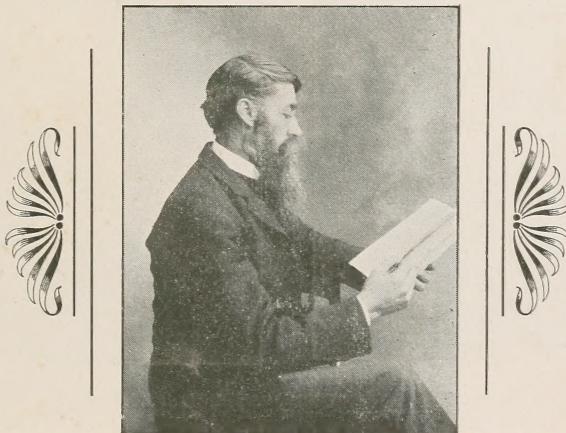
1898

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U. S. Department of Agriculture.

..Gladioli..



IN offering once more our SUPURB MIXTURE but little need be said. Those who have seen them in bloom can testify to the beauty of the collection. To others we would say that the stock shows, as usual, a measure of improvement over any preceding year. We do more than simply grow Gladioli. We breed them; and this with a well-defined end in view and a careful use of means to attain it. A practical Florist well



WILBUR A. CHRISTY,
Our Grower, who has made the study of this beautiful flower a life work.

knows that this means a diligent and careful application of skilled, scientific and intelligent labor.

Beginning many years ago with a stock of Gladioli of recognized excellence, our constant aim has been to attain still higher quality by every means known to us. The question of profit has always been a secondary one in our plans. We have offered, each year, a moderate stock of Bulbs—reserving our very best selections for the next year's planting stock—and this, too, for the ultimate benefit of our customers, as it

will, the following year, be included in our general collection and offered for sale.

There are no secrets about our methods. We seek to improve our stock in the following ways:

FIRST—By the infusion of new blood; by the addition of new and valuable sorts—the best and most distinctive kinds catalogued, both in America and Europe. There are many different strains of this beautiful flower, and each presents some distinguished trait. We endeavor to combine in our collection the good points of all.

SECOND—By the selection of propagating stock when in bloom. Only those exhibiting the most desirable points being



FLOWERS FROM OUR "SUPERB MIXTURE."

From Photos 1897.

reserved for the nucleus of the future stock. Many points are essential to a perfect flower—size, firm texture, color and marking. We also consider size and form of spike, habit of growth, height and vigor of plant, etc. Our inspection is more rigid and exacting year by year.

THIRD—By rejection of inferior and deteriorating sorts. We have not known many growers to adopt this method, as it is too expensive. The usual method is to throw these poor sorts into the market stock and thus realize from their sale. We have thrown away many thousands of bulbs every year as good as are often sold.

FOURTH—By growing high grade seedlings. Our stock contains bulbs grown from seed produced by the best growers

in the world, such as Barr & Son, Covent Garden; C. Platz, Erfurt, Germany; V. Lemoine, Nancy, France; Groff, of Canada, and Childs, Burbank and others in the United States. We always buy to obtain the best.

FIFTH—We use seed of our own growing largely, finding it equal to most obtainable grades. Our seed is grown on plants of individual merit, personally selected when in bloom.

SIXTH—We also practice pollinating by hand for the production of seed of superior merit, combining in this way the excellencies of our best strains, without leaving this to chance work of winds or insects. It is easy to make extravagant statements, and common also, but we feel that we are well



within the truth when we say that we each year plant seed that is worth its weight in gold. We do not offer separate colors nor in named sorts, though we have both. Everything, except stock reserved for next season's planting, goes into our **SUPERB MIXTURE**, which we believe to be the finest collection of Gladioli in the market.

We do not aim nor claim to grow the **largest** or **finest** bulbs on the market. Size of bulbs cuts no figure with us, and is not regarded at all in making out the points of a flower. We have grown bulbs three inches in diameter; but candor compels us to say that the bloom produced by them is usually inferior. It seems to be a fact that the very finest flowers are borne upon medium to small sized bulbs.

A WORD ABOUT COLORS. Although we have introduced into our **SUPERB MIXTURE** the greatest possible variety of colors and tints, still we make the light shades prominent, from 40 to 60 per cent. being white and various shades of light pink and yellow.

YOU will find our collection second to none. Kindly give us a trial order, if you are not already a regular buyer of our stock. Our new strain is bound to lead all others in popularity for forcing, as well as for outside planting.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS--SCHENLEY PARK,

William Falconer, Superintendent.

PITTSBURG, PA., October 20, 1897.

Mr. Frank Banning, Kinsman, Ohio:

Dear Sir--We are now lifting and storing our Gladioli, and this reminds me that I must write and thank you for the splendid lot we received from you last spring. The bulbs were fine to begin with and the plants blossomed most beautifully and were a decided and glowing attraction in the park this summer. We made three plantings, and had a continuous display from the middle of July till the middle of this month. You will hear from us again next spring.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM FALCONER, Supt.

THE E. HIPPARD CO., SEEDSMEN AND FLORISTS,

Manufacturers of the Standard and Automatic Ventilating Machines.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, Sept. 22, 1897.

Mr. Frank Banning, Kinsman, Ohio:

Dear Sir--Yes, the Gladioli bulbs were all right, and results very satisfactory. They made a strong growth. Spikes were long and well set with fine large flowers of great beauty. They seem equally well adapted to forcing or field culture.

Yours truly,

E. HIPPARD.

... PRICES ...

Per Thousand \$8.00

Per Hundred 1.00

CASH WITH ORDER.

FRANK BANNING

SEEDSMAN AND FLORIST

KINSMAN, OHIO.